



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,768	03/01/2002	Yukinori Miyake	5267-21	8785

7590

11/27/2002

Thomas Langer, Esq.
COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE
Suite 1210
551 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10176

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, SON V

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 11/27/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
10/086,768

Applicant(s)
Miyake et al.

Examiner
Son Nguyen

Art Unit
2839



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Mar 1, 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on Mar 1, 2002 is/are a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 7 6) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 2839

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - a) In page 2, line 1, it appears that "cupper" should be changed to --copper--.
 - b) In page 13, line 1, it appears that "Disclosed is a" should be --A--.
 - c) the abstract includes reference characters which are not enclosed within parentheses.

Reference characters corresponding to elements recited in the detailed description of the drawings and used in conjunction with the abstract should be enclosed within parentheses so as to avoid confusion with other numbers or characters which may appear in the abstract.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1-4 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Art Unit: 2839

In claim 1, lines 2-3, it is unclear whether applicant intended "a plug frame" to be the same as "a plug frame" in line 1. In line 3, the phrase "characterized in that" should be rephrased in proper idiomatic English.

In claims 2-4, line 1, before "plug frame", "A" should be changed to --The--.

In claim 2, lines 5-6, there is no antecedent basis for "the optical fiber cables."

Claims 3-4 have the defects of claims 1 and 2.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Iwano et al. (US 5,404,416).

The claimed invention reads on Iwano et al. as follows:

Iwano et al. discloses an optical plug [figure 15a, 16a and 16b] comprising:

- a plug frame [plug housing, 202];

Art Unit: 2839

- an optical component [201, 204] comprises a ferrule [201] for receiving an end portion of a core optical fiber [204] of a fiber optic cable [not shown for clarity, the cable can be seen in figure 12];

- the plug frame is configured as a one-piece component for floating supporting the ferrule therein [figures 16a and 16b];

- the plug frame having a first engagement portion [see an attachment] formed at one side (one end) of the plug frame for engaging with one optical component [not shown], and a second engagement portion [252] formed at the other side (other end) opposites the one end of the plug frame for engaging with an another optical connector component [206]; and

- the plug frame further having a first abutment portion [see attachment] for restricting moment of the ferrule in one direction and a second abutment portion [253] for restricting moment of the ferrule in opposite direction.

All the elements recited in the claims are read in the reference.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Valencia et al. (US 6,318,905) and Erdman et al. (US 5,394,497), show the alternate designs of the optical connector plugs comprising the ferrules floating supporting in the plug frames.

Art Unit: 2839

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Son Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-8745.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild, can be reach on (703) 308-2710. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.



Son Nguyen
Examiner
GAU: 2839

sn
November 11, 2002

